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Labour Market Information Monthly

December 2010 Edition *Issue 12 Volume 7*

Working at home *

Between 2000 and 2008, the number of Canadians who had paid employment and worked at home at least occasionally increased slightly. Even so, their share of the total workforce remained relatively stable. In 2008, just under 1.8 million employees worked at home, compared with about 1.4 million in 2000. They represented 11.2% of all paid employees in 2008, up from 10.2% eight years earlier.

However, for self-employed workers, the situation was somewhat different as the incidence of working at home for this group has increased in recent years. In 2008, just over 1.8 million self-employed people worked at home, or 60% of the total, up from 50% or 1.4 million eight years earlier.

When employees and the self-employed are combined, the overall proportion of Canadians working at home increased about 2 percentage points from 17% to 19%.

This Month

- Working at Home
- Key Labour Force Statistics
- The Industry Report

The likelihood of working at home varied by a number of factors including level of education, hours worked, occupation, industry and income. In 2008, for example, 54% of all employees who worked at home had a university degree, compared with 25% of those who never worked at home. Similarly, 55% of employees who worked at home at least occasionally were in professional or managerial jobs, compared with 23% of employees who did not work at home.

Of all employees, about 10% of women worked at home, slightly less than the 12% for men. Among professional employees, however, the gap between the sexes was wider: 29% of male professionals worked at home compared with 19% of female professionals in 2008.

The most common reason for working at home, cited by 25% of employees, was that it was a job requirement. The next most common reasons were that it provided better working conditions (23%) and that home was their usual place of work (18%).

The worker's family situation and distance between the home and workplace were also factors. In 2008, 12% of female self-employed workers reported that they were working at home for family reasons, compared with 3% of their male counterparts. Among employees who lived within 4 kilometres of their workplaces, 7% had worked at home, compared with 13% of those who lived at least 30 kilometres away.

The article "Working at home: An update" is now available in the December 2010 online issue of Canadian Social Trends, no. 91 (11-008-X, free), from the Key resource module of Statistics Canada's website under Publications.

* **Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, December 7, 2010.**

Produced by the Labour Market Analysis Branch (LMAB) of the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training & Labour
P.O. Box 6000, 470 York Street, Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1
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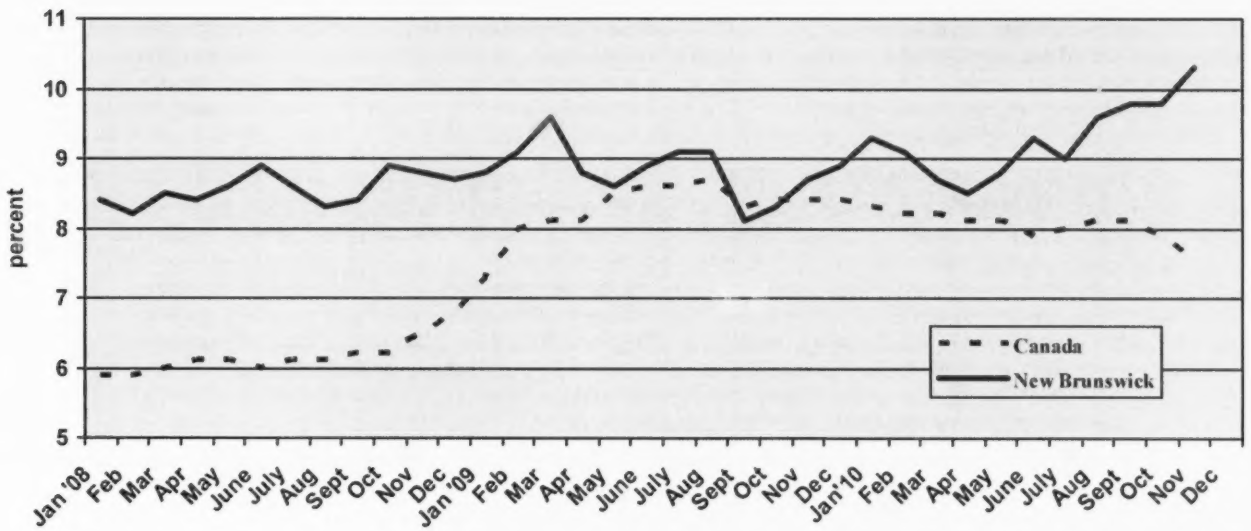
KEY LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS FOR NEW BRUNSWICK (Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey)

New Brunswick	YTD	November '10	October '10	November '09
Labour Force	401,400	**403,000**	401,600	403,400
Employed	364,200	**361,700**	362,100	368,200
Unemployed	37,300	**41,400**	39,500	35,100
Unemployment Rate	9.3%	**10.3%**	9.8%	8.7%
Participation Rate	64.3%	**64.4%**	64.2%	64.8%
Employment Rate	58.3%	**57.8%**	57.9%	59.1%

CANADA COMPARED TO NEW BRUNSWICK

In November, Canada's unemployment rate was 7.6%, 0.3 of percentage point lower than last month and 0.8 of a percentage point lower than the same time last year. New Brunswick's rate of 10.3% was 0.5 of a percentage point higher than last month and 1.6 of a percentage point higher than the same time last year, when it stood at 8.7%.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN NEW BRUNSWICK AND CANADA



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

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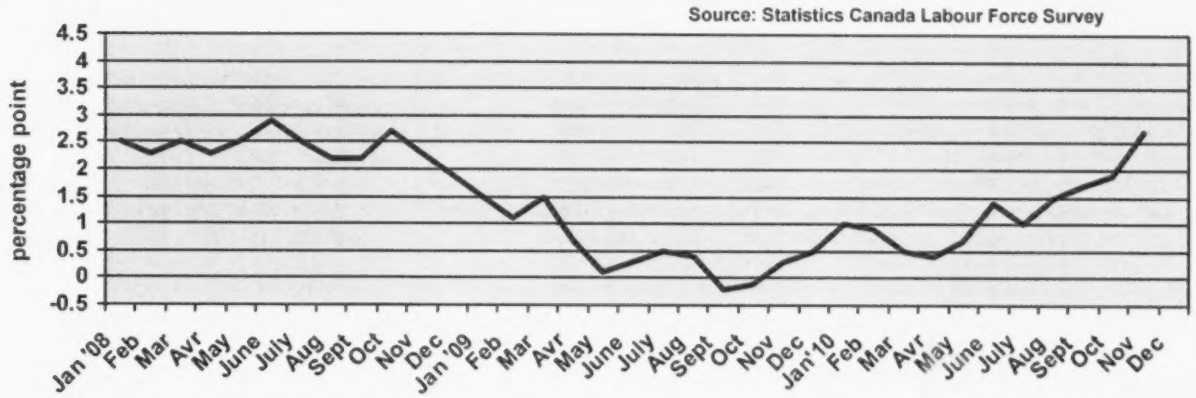
CANADA COMPARED TO NEW BRUNSWICK (continued)

The gap between the national and provincial rates was 2.7 percentage points in November.

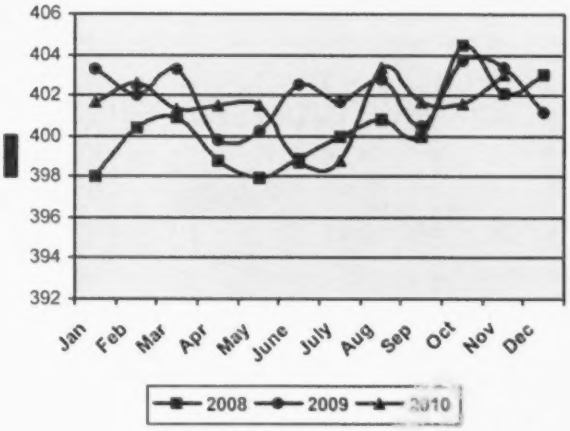
DIFFERENCE IN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN NEW BRUNSWICK AND CANADA



THE LABOUR FORCE

New Brunswick's labour force stood at 403,000 in November. This was an increase of 1,400 over last month, but a decrease of 400 over the same time last year.

THE SIZE OF THE LABOUR FORCE



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

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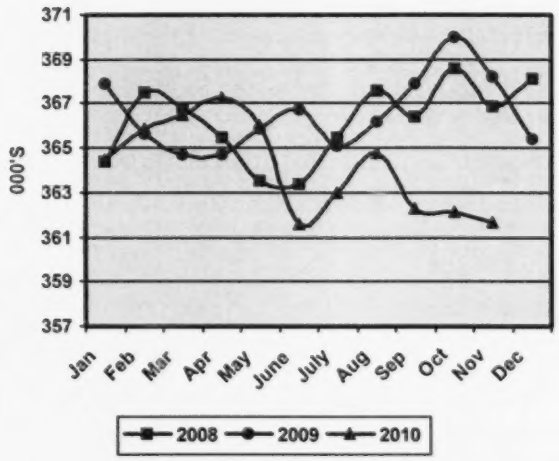
EMPLOYMENT

There were 361,700 people working in November. This was 400 less than last month and 6,500 less when compared to the same period last year.

EMPLOYMENT IN NEW BRUNSWICK

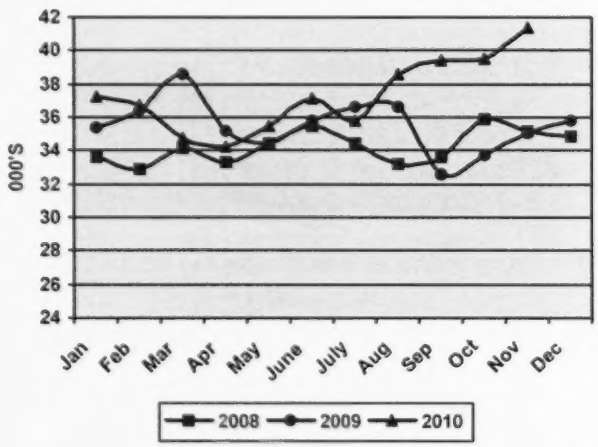


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

UNEMPLOYMENT

There were 41,400 people unemployed and seeking work in November. This is 1,900 more people than what was recorded last month and is 6,300 more compared to the same period last year.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN NEW BRUNSWICK



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

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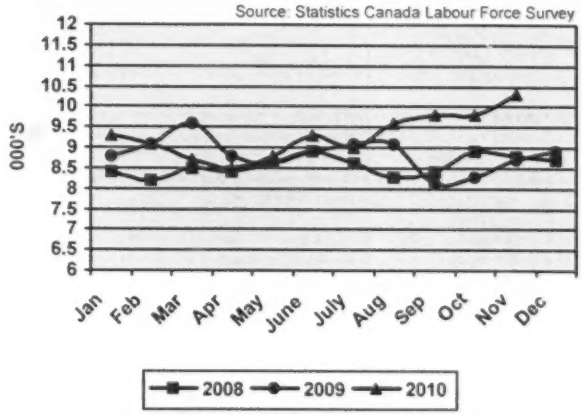
THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

New Brunswick's unemployment rate of 10.3% in November was 0.5 of a percentage point higher than last month and was 1.6 of a percentage point higher than the same time last year .

THE ECONOMIC REGIONS

Statistics Canada reports labour force statistics for the economic regions as three month moving averages of actual (not seasonally adjusted) data.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN NEW BRUNSWICK



November'10	Economic Regions Northeast	Southeast	Southwest	Central	Northwest
Labour Force	73,900	112,000	94,900	75,100	43,900
Employment	62,500	103,600	89,100	70,300	39,500
Unemployment	11,300	8,300	5,800	4,800	4,400
Unemployment Rate	15.3%	7.4%	6.1%	6.4%	10.0%
Participation Rate	55.0%	65.6%	65.5%	69.7%	64.5%

Economic Regions	YTD		November'10		November'09	
	Emp.	UR	Emp.	UR	Emp.	UR
Northeast	62,200	15.6%	62,500	15.3%	64,700	12.0%
Southeast	105,400	7.2%	103,600	7.4%	107,700	5.9%
Southwest	86,800	8.4%	89,100	6.1%	89,200	5.8%
Central	70,000	6.9%	70,300	6.4%	69,100	5.3%
Northwest	39,900	10.1%	39,500	10.0%	40,700	8.9%

On a year-over-year basis (November 2010 compared to November 2009), employment increased in the Central (+1,200) region while it decreased in the Southeast (-4,100); Northeast (-2,200); Northwest (-1,200) and Southwest (-100) economic regions.

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THE INDUSTRY REPORT

Employment growth on a year-over-year basis was strongest in the following sectors*:

Information, Culture and Recreation (11.9%) – In November of 2010 there were approximately 12,200 people employed in this sector. This was 2,900 fewer people than in September of 1999 (the record high for this sector). This is the seventeenth month out of the last eighteen that this sector has experienced a year-over-year increase in employment. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year-over-year basis 17 times. So far this year (using year-to-date figures), employment is 10.3% higher than what was recorded for the same period of 2009 (eleven months into the year).

Other Services (11.5%) – In November of 2010 there were approximately 17,400 people employed in this sector. This was 2,500 fewer people than in April of 2006 (the record high for this sector). This is the fifteenth consecutive month where the monthly employment level recorded was stronger than the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year-over-year basis in 17 of those months. So far this year (using year-to-date figures), employment is 10.7% lower than what was recorded for the same period of 2009 (eleven months into the year).

Health Care and Social Assistance (8.6%) - In November of 2010 there were approximately 52,100 people employed in this sector. This was 1,700 fewer people than in July of 2008 (the record high for this sector). This is the seventh consecutive month where the monthly employment level recorded was stronger than or equal to the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year-over-year basis in 13 of those months. So far this year (using year-to-date figures), employment is 1.9% higher than what was recorded for the same period of 2009 (eleven months into the year).

* Includes the top three growth sectors and all sectors that posted a 10% or greater (year-over-year) increase in employment.

Employment was weaker on a year-over-year basis in the following sectors**:

Business, Building and Other Support Services (-26.4%) - In November of 2010 there were approximately 15,600 people employed in this sector. This was 7,400 fewer people than in January of 2006 (the record high for this sector). This is the twelfth consecutive month where the monthly employment level recorded was weaker than the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year-over-year basis in only nine of those months (eight happening in the first eight months of this 24 month period). So far this year (using year-to-date figures), employment is 9.2% lower than what was recorded for the same period of 2009 (eleven months into the year).

Agriculture (-21.9%) – In November of 2010 there were approximately 5,700 people employed in this sector. This was 3,100 fewer people than in September of 1992 (the record high for this sector). This is the eleventh month out of the last twelve where this sector has experienced a year-over-year decline in employment. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year-over-year basis in 13 of those months. So far this year (using year-to-date figures), employment is 15.3% lower than what was recorded for the same period of 2009 (eleven months into the year).

Accommodation and Food Services (-21.3%) – In November of 2010 there were approximately 20,300 people employed in this sector. There are 6,900 fewer people employed in this sector than in May of 2006 (the record high for this sector). This is the tenth month out of the last eleven where the monthly employment level recorded was weaker than the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year-over-year basis in only five of those months. So far this year (using year-to-date figures), employment is 8.0% lower than what was recorded for the same period of 2009 (eleven months into the year).

** Includes the bottom three growth sectors and all sectors that posted a 10% or greater (year-over-year) decrease in employment

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